

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 11 and 28.

Please amend Claims 8 and 22 as set forth below:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A closure comprising;

a plastic shell having an end panel and an integral skirt downwardly extending from the periphery thereof;

said end panel having an inner surface;

a substantially oxygen impermeant liner adhered directly to at least a portion of said inner surface, wherein said liner is made from a composition that comprises a blend of a thermoplastic elastomer, polybutylene and polyisobutylene by weight, approximately 40 to 70 parts thermoplastic elastomer, approximately 15 to 30 parts polyisobutylene and approximately 10 to 35 parts polybutylene.

9. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said thermoplastic elastomer comprises a polyolefin, a butyl-based rubber and a lubricant.

10. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said thermoplastic elastomer comprises a block copolymer.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The closure of Claim ~~11~~ 8 wherein said blend comprises, by weight, approximately 65 parts thermoplastic

elastomer, approximately 20 parts polyisobutylene and approximately 15 parts polybutylene.

13. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said blend further comprises a microcrystalline wax.

14. (Original) The closure of Claim 13 wherein said blend comprises, by weight, approximately 65 parts thermoplastic elastomer, approximately 20 parts polyisobutylene, approximately 15 parts polybutylene and approximately 4 parts microcrystalline wax.

15. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said liner comprises a flat disk disposed over substantially the entire inner surface of said end panel.

16. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said liner comprises an annular ring disposed over the peripheral portion of the inner surface of said end panel.

17. (Original) The closure of Claim 15 wherein said liner comprises an interior portion and a peripheral portion, said peripheral portion having a thickness greater than said interior portion.

18. (Original) The closure of Claim 17 wherein said peripheral portion has a thickness of approximately 0.030-0.035 inches.

19. (Original) The closure of Claim 17 wherein said interior portion has a thickness of approximately 0.010-0.015 inches.

20. (Original) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said liner exhibits an average oxygen ingress rate of less than 14.0 cc/m²/day.

21. (Original) The container closure of Claim 8 wherein said liner exhibits an average oxygen ingress rate of approximately 4.0-8.0 cc/m²/day.

22-32. (Canceled)

33. (New) The closure of Claim 8 wherein said liner composition is substantially oil-free.